

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 EURE-00 ISO-00 ERDA-05 CIAE-00 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-03 PRS-01

SAJ-01 SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 DODE-00

NSC-05 ACDA-05 BIB-01 CU-02 /086 W
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P R 171509Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1494

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USBERLIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 11626

GENEVA FOR CSCE DEL

BERLIN FOR THE AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CSCE, GW

SUBJECT: CSCE: OPPOSITION CONCERNS ABOUT CONFERENCE
RESULTS PERSIST IN FRG

REFS: A) BONN 5524 B) BONN 7316

BEGIN SUMMARY. OPPOSITION CONCERNS ABOUT THE RESULTS
OF CSCE AND THEIR FUTURE IMPACT ON THE FRG HAVE TAKEN
ON AN INCREASINGLY PUBLIC DIMENSION DURING THE PAST
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SEVERAL MONTHS. NOW, WITH THE SETTING OF A TENTATIVE

SUMMIT DATE, THE CDU/CSU OPPOSITION HAS MADE MORE FORMAL ITS CRITICISM OF THE CONFERENCE RESULTS, CHARGING THAT THEY ARE NOT SUFFICIENT TO SAFEGUARD FUTURE GERMAN REUNIFICATION OR THE FRG'S TIES TO BERLIN. BAVARIA, THE FRG'S MOST CONSERVATIVE STATE, INTRODUCED A RESOLUTION IN THE BUNDESRAT ON JULY 11 CALLING FOR A UNILATERAL GERMAN DECLARATION TO SAFEGUARD THE FRG'S LEGAL POSITION PRIOR TO THE CONCLUSION OF THE CONFERENCE. THE RESOLUTION WAS REJECTED IN A STRAIGHT PARTY-LINE VOTE. THE BUNDESTAG WILL CONVENE ON JULY 25 TO DEBATE THE SECURITY CONFERENCE, WITH THE OPPOSITION EXPECTED TO CONTINUE ITS POLITICS OF CONFRONTATION TACTICS ON CSCE. END SUMMARY.

1. THE CDU/CSU OPPOSITION HAS STEPPED UP ITS CRITICISM OF CSCE THE PAST SEVERAL MONTHS, WARNING THAT THE CONFERENCE RESULTS MAY HAVE FUTURE SERIOUS ADVERSE EFFECTS ON THE FRG. WITH THE PROSPECTS FOR A LATE JULY SUMMIT INCREASING, THE OPPOSITION FORMALIZED ITS CONCERNS BY INTRODUCING A RESOLUTION INTO THE BUNDESRAT ON JULY 11 AND BY CASTING NEGATIVE VOTES FOLLOWING THE BUNDESTAG FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE'S JULY 14 HEARINGS ON CSCE RESULTS.

2. THE BUNDESRAT RESOLUTION-DRAFTED BY BAVARIA-REQUESTED THE FRG TO MAKE A FORAML STATEMENT OF ITS LEGAL POSITION ON GERMANY AS A WHOLE AND BERLIN BEFORE THE CONCLUSION OF THE CONFERENCE. HOWEVER, THE RESOLUTION WAS DEFEATED ALONG PARTY LINES BY A VOTE OF 24 TO 20, WITH THE BERLIN DELEGATION'S VOTES AGAINST THE RESOLUTION PROVING TO BE DECISIVE. FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER INDICATED THAT CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT, IN HIS APPEARANCE AT THE HELSINKI SUMMIT, WOULD MAKE AN ORAL STATEMENT ABOUT THE GERMAN QUESTION.

3. THE BUNDESTAG FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE CONVENED ON JULY 14 TO REVIEW THE RESULTS THUS FAR ACHIEVED IN THE CONFERENCE. FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER AGAIN PRESENTED THE CASE FOR THE GOVERNMENT'S POSITIVE EVALUATION OF THE RESULTS. HOWEVER, HE AND OTHER

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 11626

MEMBERS OF THE COALITION WERE UNABLE TO CONVINCE THE
CDU/CSU MEMBERS TO RECONSIDER THEIR POSITION. IN A
STRAIGHT PARTY VOTE THE COMMITTEE DECIDED TO ENDORSE
THE CONFERENCE RESULTS.

4. A BUNDESTAG DEBATE ON CSCE HAS NOW BEEN SCHEDULED
FOR JULY 25, WITH DEPUTIES RETURNING TO THE CAPITAL
TO PARTICIPATE IN THE DEBATE. FOREIGN MINISTER
GENSCHER IS EXPECTED TO LEAD OFF FOR THE GOVERNMENT
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BY PRESENTING A STATEMENT MORE OR LESS ALONG THE LINES

OF HIS PREVIOUS PRESENTATIONS TO THE BUNDESRAT AND
FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE.

5. COMMENT: THE OPPOSITION SEEMS GENUINELY CONCERNED
ABOUT THE ADVERSE EFFECTS WHICH CSCE MAY HAVE ON THE
FUTURE OF THE FRG. HOWEVER, THE ELEMENT OF PURELY
PARTISAN POLITICS SHOULD NOT BE OVERLOOKED, SINCE
OPPOSITION TO THE CSCE RESULTS PROVIDES THE CONSERVA-
TIVES WITH ANOTHER ISSUE UPON WHICH TO BASE THEIR
CAMPAIGN AGAINST THE COALITION NEXT YEAR. A RECENT
POLL CONDUCTED IN THE FRG REVEALED, HOWEVER, THAT
ONLY ONE IN FIVE GERMANS COULD DECIPHER THE CSCE
ABBREVIATION. THUS, IT APPEARS IT WILL BE A DIFFICULT
TASK FOR THE OPPOSITION TO GET MUCH POLITICAL MILEAGE
OUT OF AN ISSUE WHICH THUS FAR HAS FAILED TO
PENETRATE DEEPLY INTO THE GERMAN ELECTORATE'S
CONSCIOUSNESS. END COMMENT.
HILLENBRAND

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